

Sign Number Twenty-One

By DORIS ADA MATTESON

"It's like looking for a needle in a haystack," he sighed rather disappointedly, as, for the fiftieth time perhaps, he came to a halt in front of Sign 21.

It was a large framework of smooth boards covering the front of a fifty-foot lot between two brick buildings. It was about twenty feet high.

"I've got an idea!" suddenly exclaimed the young man. "Suppose the thief threw the wallet over the top of the sign into the vacant lot beyond—why not? Ah! a little door. This may be worth investigating."

Way down at one corner end of the big sign, sure enough, a narrow door showed. The poster sheets covering it had been cut so the door would swing inward. Noble pushed it open. He supposed this was a convenience for the owners of the signboard, so they could get behind the sign to repair it or strengthen its supports when necessary. What was his surprise, however, to find steps leading down into the vacant lot, about its middle a wandering tool shed, made over into a quite presentable living structure.

And what the further surprise of the young violinist struggling for a living, to observe neat attractive flower beds in front of the little house, and seated in its doorway a charming young girl, sewing. She looked startled as the young man somewhat embarrassed came towards her, his hat in his hand, an apology for intruding upon his lips.

Naturally Adrian Noble explained to the young lady his mission. She was immediately interested and heard of the case for the first time. She was drawn irresistibly towards her handsome, bright-faced visitor. She even joined him in the search for the blue wallet, but the quest was fruitless.

Gradually Noble learned her strange history. Her father owned the lot, it was valuable, but he had spent all he had in litigating with a claimant. All the time in his humble abode, however, he had kept in possession. Mr. Warren worked in a factory near by. Zella helped by keeping house and sewing for a department store. They had managed to clear the lot between them, but the taxes were behind. Another thousand dollars saved and they could borrow enough to build a store structure and receive a good income from the investment.

After that Adrian Noble forgot all about the blue wallet in becoming a regular visitor to the place. Those two innocent spirits seemed made one for the other and John Warren did not object to their new friend. They had managed to clear the lot between them, but the taxes were behind. Another thousand dollars saved and they could borrow enough to build a store structure and receive a good income from the investment.

One evening Noble arrived at the lot to find the sign in ruins, a severe windstorm had blown it down. The sign owners had given it to Warren for kindling wood and were going to build an entirely new one. Noble assisted in pulling the mass apart and piling up the loose board. Suddenly he uttered a wild cry.

"The blue wallet!" he shouted. Yes, there it was—pasted under the poster sheet as a hiding place by the dead thief and come to light at last.

And so the reward was gained, giving to John Warren the means of retrieving his adverse fortune, to Adrian Noble enough to marry on and be happy.

AGES OF VARIOUS LANDS

Many European Countries That Can by No Means Be Considered as Old.

Compared with France and Germany, Switzerland is old. Under Napoleon's patronage the sturdy little Alpine states were united into an independent, but rather loose, federation in 1803. In 1848 a new confederation was formed, modeled on that of the United States, and holding the cantons together in a more strongly centralized federal power. In 1874 a revision of the constitution gave still greater power to the central government. It is interesting to note that at the congress of Vienna the powers of Europe agreed never to violate the neutrality of Switzerland, or to attempt to move troops through the passes of the Swiss Alps.

Greece has been an independent kingdom since 1832, Roumania since 1862, Bulgaria since 1885. Montenegro became independent in 1878 and was made a constitutional monarchy in 1905. The Portuguese republic was established in 1910. Turkey's new regime is five years old.

Russia stands, alongside of England, as our rival in point of age. The empire of the Romanoffs has changed but little since the time when Ivan the Terrible, in 1554, threw off the Tartar yoke.

Whale Frees Companion.
The rescue of a harpooned whale by another is the story brought to Boston by Capt. Louis Lopes of the whaling schooner Whyland. The Whyland was off Cape Hatteras six weeks ago, and a big whale was harpooned by one of her crew.

The men were pulling in the line when another whale came into view, and maneuvered for a position between the harpooned whale and the whaling boat. The second whale bit the connecting rope, Captain Lopes declares, and in a short time had set its companion free.

The harpooned whale went off with the iron sticking in its body and 20 feet of rope trailing and the men were unable to get another shot at either.

Possible Explanation.
"What do you suppose Shakespeare meant by Cleopatra's 'infinite variety'?" queried the literary board. "The infinite variety of the ancients," replied the bachelor with the absent hair, "is believed to have been synonymous with the continuous vaudeville of today."

Trinity Church on Valuable Ground.
The land at the head of Wall street New York, on which Trinity church and cemetery stand, comprises a plot 291 feet long by 227 feet broad, valued at 17 million dollars.

His Favorite Route.
"The doctor told Tomkins he must walk three miles every day."
"Where does he take it?"
"Around a pool table, generally,"—Boston Transcript.

AMMUNITION FOR TURKS IN GALLIOLI



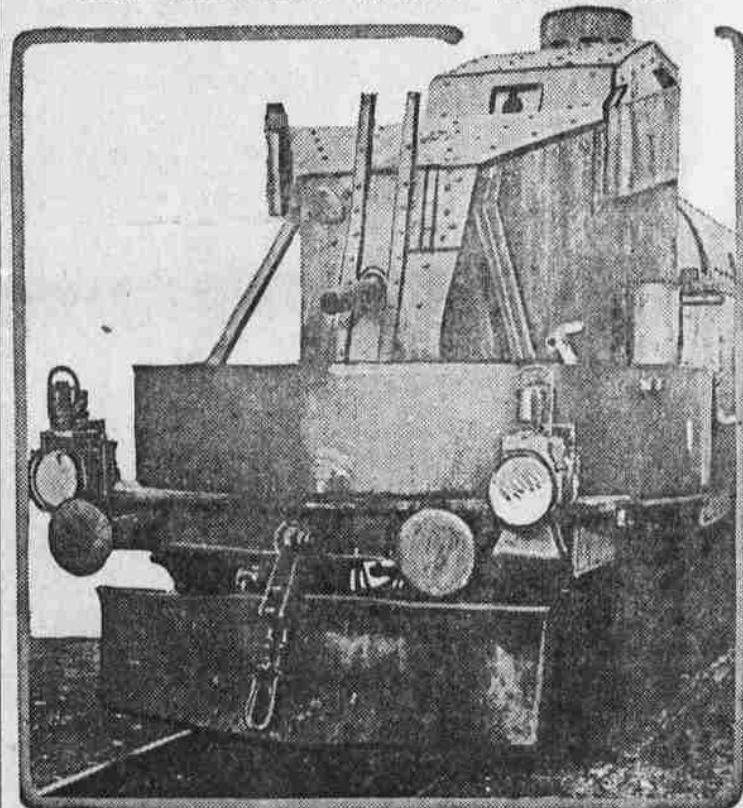
Caravan of camels laden with munitions for the Turks on the Gallipoli peninsula, passing through a Turkish village.

HAULING TORPEDO THROUGH NEW YORK STREETS



An unusual sight that attracted much attention in New York was this modern Whitehead torpedo being hauled through the streets. It was lent by Secretary of the Navy Daniels to the American Defense society to be used as an exhibit in the preparedness campaign. The torpedo is 17 feet long and weighs 1,700 pounds. It could sink the largest ship afloat.

NEW AUSTRIAN ARMED LOCOMOTIVE



The Austrians have placed rapid-fire guns behind armor plates on the rear ends of locomotives and have been using the device with great effect against the Russians in Galicia.

FRENCH WOMEN MAKE AMMUNITION



This photograph shows a scene now common in France, where the women have largely taken the place of men in the ammunition factories. They are seen filling shells with shrapnel.

"STOLE MY WIFE AND NAME"

A charge that Warren Wunder not only stole the wife of Herman H. Roecker, but Roecker's name as well, was made in a suit for \$1,500 damages entered against him in municipal court.

Roecker, who lives in Pine street near Sixth, accuses Wunder of stealing the affections of Mrs. Roecker and inducing her to live with him as his wife.

"He even went so far as to assume

my name," Roecker says, "and was known by it in the neighborhood in which he and my wife lived."
The Roeckers were married in June, 1908, in West Chester. They lived happily, the husband says, until Wunder became acquainted with Mrs. Roecker. From that time on, he charges, his wife's love for him began to cool, and his home was entirely broken up in March, 1910.
Judge Gilpin issued a capias for Wunder's arrest.—Philadelphia North American.

EDWIN GOULD AT PLAY



Edwin Gould, director and part owner of more than a dozen railroads and commercial enterprises, keeps in condition by playing tennis, of which he is very fond. This photograph was taken on the courts at Coronado Beach, California.

Mackensen No Scot.

The idea current in the Scottish press that General von Mackensen is a Highlander gone astray is quite erroneous. One finds on the continent occasional traces of Scottish names slightly transformed to fit their surroundings. They are common enough in Holland, thanks to the famous eighteenth century regiment of the Scots-Dutch, and we have an example in the Norwegian pianist, Grieg, whose ancestors, Greggs of Arboath, settled in Bergen, in Norway. Von Mackensen is no sort of a Mackenzie. He takes his name from the village of Mackensen, on the Solling, a small agricultural spot in Hanover, not far from the once pleasant town of Hildesheim. Like most families who derive their names from the soil, General von Mackensen comes from a very old family, though its patent of nobility is entirely modern.—Manchester Guardian.

Mineral Waters.

According to the annual statement on the production of mineral waters in 1914, now available for distribution by the geological survey, 54,358,466 gallons of mineral water were sold during the year. This quantity came from 829 commercial springs and had a value of \$4,892,328.

Small Boy's Request.

Little Claude has been told that Uncle Ezra is afflicted with a glass eye, and forgets that he has been instructed to say nothing about it. "Will you let me take your eye a little while, Uncle Ezra? My other marble rolled down the register."

Nerve and Golf.

Somebody says that you can't play golf unless you have the nerve. Now men display a lot of nerve in thinking they can play it.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

NOT A MATTER OF PIETY

Brother John Had His Own Reasons for His Close Perusal of the Scriptures.

The parson of a small country church was rambling along the road when it suddenly occurred to him to call on a citizen named Jones, who was known to be rather indifferent about church attendance. The place was soon reached, and entering the garden gate the pastor was surprised to see Jones sitting on the veranda with a large Bible in his hands.

"Ah, Brother Jones," said the parson with a smile of satisfaction, "I am glad to see you so attentively perusing your Bible."

"Yes," responded Jones. "There are times when it comes in mighty handy."

"Perhaps I might be able to help you," generously volunteered the dominie. "Were you looking for any particular passage?"

"No," was the startling reply of Jones. "Twins have just come to our house, and mother asked me if I wouldn't look up a couple o' names for 'em."

Hardly Likely.

Some time ago an elderly gentleman was cycling down a narrow street in Waterford, when a dog suddenly rushed out from a doorway and, getting under his wheel, threw him on the ground in a sitting position. The dog, seeming to enjoy the situation, circled round and round, barking playfully. A boy who was passing at the time stood staring at the performance for a few minutes, and then asked in a quiet tone:

"Did you fall, Mr. D—?"
"Of course I did," said Mr. D—, angrily, while getting up and brushing the dust off his clothes.

"Oh," replied the boy, as he strolled away, "I thought you couldn't have sat down just to play with the dog."

It's Part of His Job.

House-Hunter—Seems to me this house isn't very well built. The floor shakes when we walk.

Agent—Um—y-e-s; that's the new kind of spring floor for dancing, you know.

House-Hunter—And these stairs creak terribly.

Agent—Y-e-s. We furnish this new patent burglar alarm staircase without extra charge.

No Note in His Eye.

"What are you studying now?" asked Mrs. Johnson.

"We have taken up the subject of molecules," answered her son.

"I hope you will be very attentive and practice constantly," said the mother. "I tried to get your father to wear one, but he could not keep it in his eye."—Kansas City Star.

Underground Fighting.

Mrs. Church—Wouldn't your husband like to go and fight in the trenches?

Mrs. Gotham—No; trying to get a seat in the subway is about all the underground fighting he wants.—New York Telegram.

What every mother needs is more kindness and sympathy while she is alive and less lapdoodle after she is dead.

WAY OF THE MODERN MAIDEN

Lure of Romance Not as Strong as It Was in the Days of Her Grandmother.

Appropos of a young girl's rich marriage, Mayor Rockwell said at a reception in Akron:

"Our girls don't marry disadvantageously as often as our boys do. In the whirl of love the female doesn't seem to get as dizzy as the male."

"A pretty girl told me the other day that she was engaged to a very rich landowner."

"Well, well," I said, "and here we all thought you'd marry the eloquent young preacher who took you about so much last summer."

"The girl smiled."
"Deeds speak louder than words," she said.

What She Had She'd Hold.

It was the happiest moment of their lives. He had just proposed and she had grab—er—accepted him.

Then he took a tiny leather case from his pocket and slipped a sparkling circlet on her finger, while she beamed with pride.

"I'm afraid it's rather loose, darling," he murmured. "Shall I take it back and have it made smaller?"
The damsel shook her head decidedly.

Very Absent-Minded.

In Berlin they tell the story of a very learned and also absent-minded professor who returned to his room late one night, and as he was lighting the candle fancied he heard a noise. He promptly called out:

"Is there anyone here?"

A thief lay concealed under the bed. Hearing the question, and knowing the professor's falling, he shouted in reply, "No!"

Then the professor exclaimed in much surprise: "That's exceedingly strange! I was positive someone was under the bed." Then he retired to rest and the thief ransacked the room.

His View.

Willis—A few years more will see the end of the moving-picture business.

Gillis—Why so?

Willis—Lack of attendance.

Gillis—Nonsense. Their popularity is increasing daily.

Willis—Maybe, but mark my words, at the rate they are going, in a few years everybody will be either acting in them or running a picture show and there won't be anybody left to watch the pictures.—Judge.

Helped Considerably.

"I presume there was a Lovers' lane at the summer resort you visited?"

"I think not."

"But, surely, there were some accommodations for spooning?"

"Well, the power plant was defective and the lights went out two or three times in the course of an evening."

An average man breathes about 21 cubic feet of air into his lungs every hour.



Many Positions Carrying Large Salaries

are open today to men in every walk of life. But the men must possess vigorous bodies and keen, active minds.

Success-making mental and physical activity relies largely upon right living wherein the right kind of food plays a most vital part.

In many cases the daily diet lacks certain of Nature's elements essential to energizing and upbuilding the mental and physical faculties. Most white flour products, such as white bread and many other commonly used foods, are in that class.

A food especially designed to offset this lack—

Grape-Nuts

—made of wheat and malted barley, supplies all the nutriment of the grains, including the mineral salts—sturdy builders of brain, nerve and muscle.

Grape-Nuts is thoroughly processed, ready to serve from the package, fresh, crisp and delicious. Then, too, there's a wonderful return of the power to "do" and to "be" for the small energy required in its digestion.

After repeated set-backs thousands have found a change to right eating means forging ahead.

"There's a Reason" for Grape-Nuts
Sold by Grocers everywhere.